GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2116
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2005
KILLING OF PEACOCKS
Kanodia Shri Mahesh Kumar;Solanki Shri Bhupendrasinh Prabhatsinh

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether peacocks are being killed in several parts of the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government is contemplating to take any step to save them;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) Sporadic reports of killing of peacocks have came to the notice of the Government.

(b) & (c) The steps taken by the Government to save peacocks are as follows −

i. Peacock is included in the Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, thereby giving it highest protection. Hunting of peacock is prohibited under the provisions of the Act.

ii. Provisions have been made in the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 for establishing Community and Conservation Reserves outside the National Parks and Sanctuaries to provide protection to birds including peacock that inhabit natural habitats outside the Protected Areas.

iii. The penalty for poaching of peacock and illegal trade of its parts and products has been enhanced from minimum of one year to three years and maximum of six years to seven years. Provision has also been made for forfeiture of property of the habitual offenders.

iv. The Central Bureau of Investigation has been empowered under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to apprehend and prosecute wildlife offenders.

v. Central Government has adopted the integrated pest management approach to minimize indiscriminate and injudicious use of chemical pesticides to prevent inadvertent damage to peacocks and other foraging birds.

vi. Awareness is being generated amongst the farmers to adopt organic farming methods and use bio-pesticides to save their crops from the ravages of pests and diseases.

(d) Does not arise.